

In re Application of: Chen, et al.

Serial No: 10/036,736

Filed: December 21, 2001

Confirmation No: 3665

Title: Sponge-Like Pad Comprising Paper Layers and Method of Manufacture



Group Art Unit: 3761

Examiner: Stephens, Jacqueline F.

Our Client ID: 22827

Our Account No: 04-1403

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This is a response/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes the herewith attachment of same date and subject which is incorporated hereinto by reference and the signature below is to be treated as the signature to the attachment in absence of a signature thereto.

Fee requirements (if any) have been calculated as shown below:

| Claims remaining after amendment | Highest number previously paid for | Present Extra | Additional Fee |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Total Effective Claims | minus | = | X \$18 = \$.00 |
| Independent Claims | minus | = | x \$86 = \$.00 |
| If amendment enters <u>proper</u> multiple dependent claim(s) into this application for <u>first</u> time, add \$290.00 (per application) | | | \$.00 |
| Since Official Action set an <u>original</u> due date of _____, | | | |
| PETITION is hereby made for an extension to cover the date this response is filed for which the requisite fee is enclosed (1 month \$110; 2 months \$420; 3 months \$950; 4 months \$1480) | | | \$.00 |
| If Terminal Disclaimer enclosed, add Rule 20(d) Official Fee (\$110.00) | | | \$.00 |
| SUBTOTAL: | | | \$.00 |
| If "small entity" verified statement filed [] previously, [] herewith, enter one-half (1/2) of subtotal and <u>subtract</u> | | | \$.00 |
| TOTAL: | | | \$.00 |
| Other: _____ | | | \$.00 |
| TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED: | | | \$.00 |

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any fees in addition to the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 (deficiency only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting official document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Account No. shown in the heading hereof for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached. This statement does not authorize charge of the issue fee in this case.

ADDRESS:
Post Office Box 1449
Greenville, SC 29602 USA
Customer ID No.: 22827
Telephone: 864-271-1592
Facsimile: 864-233-7342

DORITY & MANNING
ATTORNEYS AT LAW, P.A.

By: Timothy A. Cassidy Reg. No: 38,024 Date: May 26, 2004

Signature: [Signature]

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any referenced attachment and fee are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 26, 2004.

Pamela Knorr

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

[Signature]
(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)



PATENT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: KCX-484 (17155)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| In re Application of: Chen, et al. |) | |
| |) | Examiner: Stephens, Jacqueline F. |
| Serial No.: 10/036,736 |) | |
| |) | Art Unit: 3761 |
| Filed: December 21, 2001 |) | |
| |) | Deposit Acct. No.: 04-1403 |
| Title: Sponge-Like Pad Comprising Paper |) | |
| Layers and Method of Manufacture |) | Client ID: 22827 |

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner of Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants hereby elect to initially prosecute the invention of Group I, corresponding to claims 1-8 and 67-121. Applicants understand that claims 122-126 are withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected invention. Applicants further request consideration of claims 127-132.

In response to the species elections, Applicants hereby elect the species directed to the latex-free article and the species directed to attaching plies by thermal bonding.

Applicants submit that claims 1-8, 67-74, 79-86, 89-93, 95-97, 101-103, 108-110, 112, and 113 are all generic to both species election. Thus, Applicants request allowance of dependent claims directed to non-elected species should any independent generic claims be held allowed.

With respect to the species election, claim 94 reads upon the first species election directed to a latex-free article. Claims 75-77, 104-107, 114-121, and 127-132 all read on the second species election directed to plies attached by thermal bonding.

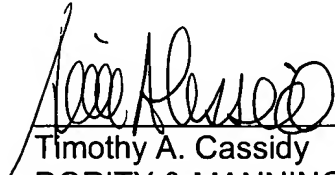
Applicants understand that claims 78, 87, 88, 98-100 and 111 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected species.

Examiner Stephens is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned should she have any questions with respect to this response or if any other issues arise with respect to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

5/26/04

Date



Timothy A. Cassidy
DORITY & MANNING, P.A.

P.O. Box 1449
Greenville, SC 29602
(864) 271-1592
(864) 233-7342